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The tests were performed last year when federal agents for TSA traveled through security with realistic but fake bombs in their luggage -- screeners in Los Angeles failed 75 percent of the time, and Chicago-O'Hare failed 60 percent of the time.

But in San Francisco, where private guards still handle security, they only failed 20 percent of the test.

"Why can they not see the bomb components when they're looking though the screens?" asked one concerned traveler.

"I'm on airplane three days a week and the fact that people are following me on those planes potentially with things in their bags scare me," said another traveler.

Since the tests were performed a year ago, the TSA insists its efficiency has improved.

"I assure you we're seeing improvements in those test scores," said TSA spokesperson Lora Uselding. "We're doing a different variety -- er, a wider variety of testing and seeing improvements in the scores."

But not everyone is convinced.

"That is a grossly failing grade," said Rep. Mark Kirk, who is calling for a security summit at O'Hare. "I want to make sure the screeners are regularly tested and those receiving failing grades should be processed out of the system."

"We are testing every airport, every checkpoint, every shift of the day," said Uselding.

The TSA said all of its screeners receive 180 hours of training and additional training every week exclusively on explosive detection.